National Bicycle Corporation of India Ltd.

1261. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the various units of National Bicycle Corporation of India are running in loss over a number of years and the employees have not been paid their wages; if so, what are the reasons therefor; what are the accumulated losses so far;

(b) what is the assistance made available by Government to cycle industry as against car manufacturing in the last fiev years in terms of fiscal incentives and duty relief etc.;

(c) what is the annual production of cycles in the public sector as against private sector companies in the last three years and whether steps would be taken to augment production in the units managed by the National Bicycle Corporation of India Limited; and

(d) what are the demands of the employees of N.B.C.I.L. and to what extent have they been fulfilled?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI J. VENGALRAO): (a) National Bicycle Corporation of India Limited is running in losses since its inception in 1980. The employees have however been paid their wages. The losses are due to various reasons such as old and out-dated machinery, surplus manpower, poor liquidity position, high cost of production etc. The provisional cumulative losses upto 31-3-1988 are approximately Rs. 31 crores.

(b) Cycle industry enjoys certain fiscal benefits such as, those under cash compensatory scheme (CCS) on complete bicycles, International Price Replenishment Scheme (IPRS), concessional rate of customs duty for certain specialised items of capital goods, import replenishment on the export value against export of bicycles, bicycles rickshaws and components/accessories/spares.

(c) The cycles produced by the two public sector undertakings during the last three years was between 1.71 lakhs to 3.29 lakhs nos. p.a., as against 50 lakhs to 63 lakhs nos. p.a. in private sector. Various steps have been taken by the Government with a view to augment the production of NBCIL.

(d) The demands of the employees of NBCIL, mainly relate to revision of wage settlement which have not been fulfilled so far.

Price rise by the tyre manufacturers

1262. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH:
SHRI RAM NARESH YADAV:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether tyre manufacturers have been restrained by Government to hold the recent price hike in abeyance;

(b) whether it is a fact that the prices of inputs in this industry are also rising and whether the BICP has conducted a study on this issue and submitted a report, if so, what are details thereof; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to protect the consumers against unilateral price rise by the tyre manufacturers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) There is no statutory control over prices of tyres.

(b) BICP had suggested a fair normative price for tyres on the basis of cost of inputs prevailing in May, 1986. As the cost of a number of major inputs required for the manufacture of tyres had gone up consider-